

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A device comprising, between a differential pair of inputs, consisting of a first input (INN) and a second input (INP), and an output (OUT), a differential pre-amplifier (HPA1, HPA2), **characterised**

in that said device further comprises an offset-reducing block (ORB) cascaded with said differential pre-amplifier (HPA1, HPA2) and arranged for reducing the offset generated by said differential pre-amplifier, and

in that said device further comprises a buffering block (BB) in series with said offset-reducing block (ORB) and arranged for amplifying and buffering the output voltage of said offset-reducing block.

2. (Original) The device as in claim 1, **characterised in that** said differential pre-amplifier comprises a first (HPA1) and a second (HPA2) half pre-amplifier, each of said half pre-amplifiers having a first (+) and a second (-) input and an output, the outputs of said half pre-amplifiers being coupled together to form an input to said offset-reducing block (ORB).

3. (Currently Amended) The device as in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, **characterised in that** the first input (+) of said first half pre-amplifier (HPA1) is coupled to a first input (INP) of said

device, whilst the second input (-) of said first half pre-amplifier (HPA1) is coupled to the second input (INN) of said device, and

in that the first input (+) of said second half pre-amplifier (HPA2) is coupled to the first input (INP) of said device, whilst the second input (-) of said second half pre-amplifier (HPA2) is coupled to the second input (INN) of said device.

4. (Currently Amended) The device as in ~~any of the previous claims~~claim 1, **characterised in that** said offset-reducing block (ORB) comprises a transimpedance circuit.

5. (Original) The device as in claim 4, **characterised in that** said transimpedance circuit comprises a resistor (RP1) and an inverter stage (MP5-MN5).

6. (Currently Amended) The device as in ~~any of the previous claims~~claim 1, **characterised in that** said offset-reducing block (ORB) additionally comprises means for equalisation.

7. (Original) The device as in claim 6, **characterised in that** said means for equalisation comprises a RC network.

8. (Currently Amended) The device as in ~~any of the previous claims~~claim 1, **characterised in that** said buffering block (BB) comprises means for amplification and pulse shaping.

9. (Original) The device as in claim 8, **characterised in that** said means for amplification and pulse shaping comprises an inverter circuit (MN6-MP6).

10. (Currently Amended) A receiver structure comprising a device as in ~~any of the previous claims~~claim 1.